

GFOA of South Carolina

Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 1

Winter 2002

The Government Finance
Officers Association
Of South Carolina
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DARLA MOORE RETURNS TO GFOASC

Darla Moore will be presenting the keynote address for the GFOASC 2002 Spring Conference. Ms. Moore, a very dynamic speaker, last presented the keynote address at GFOASC's 2000 Spring Conference, where she both informed and entertained attendees with her very real and down-to-earth views of where our State is economically and where it should be in the future. You won't want to miss Ms. Moore's presentation at the 2002 Spring Conference.

The Spring Conference will be held on **May 2, 2002** at the Sheraton Hotel & Conference Center. Our theme for this year's conference is appropriately entitled "Turning Challenges into Opportunities." The Spring Conference Committee is in the process of putting together a very informative conference. Some ses-

sions on the agenda include: Court Fees and Fines; State Shared Revenue; GASB 34 for State Agencies; GASB 34 & 35 for Higher Education; Auditing GASB 34 for Higher Education; State Accountability Reports, Benchmarking and Performance Measures; ERP Systems; the Agency Level Financial Management System; Networking sessions for all sectors of government; and more.

Be sure to login to the GFOASC web site to receive up-to-date information. Online registration will be available beginning in mid March. Registration brochures will also be mailed around mid March. The conference registration fee is \$55.00 for members by early bird deadline of April 15th. See you there!!

BEN RAST TO SPEAK AT MARCH LUNCHEON

The next luncheon meeting will be held on **March 13, 2002**. Ben Rast will be our guest speaker. He will speak on tax law changes and 401K plans. The luncheon meeting will be held at the Hilltop Restaurant (formerly known as the Western Steer) on St. Andrew's Road. Mr. Rast will begin speaking promptly at 12:30 p.m. Please come early to enjoy lunch with your colleagues.

We had an excellent turnout with more than 40 attendees at our January 16th luncheon meeting at the Hilltop. Our guest speaker was Bill Gillespie, our State's Chief Economist. Mr. Gillespie spoke on the condition of our economy and the outlook for the future. You may view the web site at www.state.sc.us/gfoa to get a copy of his Revenue Briefing presented to the House Ways & Means Committee on January 9th.

From The President ...

“Plans Underway for 2002”

As the 2002 President of GFOASC, it is my goal this year to keep the association strong. We all are seeing some very serious budget reductions and realize that more are to come. It is important now more than ever that we do all we can to support our association.

GFOASC provides its membership with a means to study, discuss and recommend improvements in government finance; it provides a means for exchange of ideas and experiences among governmental finance officers; it promotes and encourages professional competence through continuing education and training; and much more.

GFOASC is an 800 member association with so much to offer. I am pleased to announce that the Board and various committees have hit the ground running in preparation for 2002.

Vick Traywick, Spring Conference Chair, and I began the site selection process for spring conference in November. The full committee is in place and has begun selecting topics and speakers.

Rich Gilbert, CPE Coordinator, Renee Moore, Program Committee Chair, and I met in November to set the schedule of CPE classes for the year. We decided on five accounting/auditing/budgeting topics re-

quested by the membership providing forty hours of Continuing Professional Education credits. More than thirty participants attended the first class, *Fraud, Detection and Prevention*, on Feb 1.

Renee Moore and the Program Committee have been very busy planning the luncheon meetings for the year. Our guest speaker - Bill Gillespie, State's Chief Economist - at the January 16 luncheon discussed a Revenue Briefing presented to the Ways & Means Committee on January 9.

All CGFOs should have received a letter from me in early February along with a Continuing Education Report for Recertification to be completed and submitted by the end of February. This form is also fillable online at the GFOASC web site. All appointments to the Certification Committee have been completed and they will begin meeting in March.

The Scholarship Committee with Ann Epting, Chair, has also begun work. Applications for the Bellamy Scholarship and the MVP Scholarship have been mailed to the appropriate institutions of higher learning.

Other committee chair appointments are as follows: Membership, Robin Wilkes; Financial Review, Judy Hrinda; Professional Ethics and Policies

& Procedures, Viola Faust; Nominating, Marcia Medway; Public Relations, Ron Rhames; Newsletter, Frances Derrick; Technology, Renee Moore; and Fall Conference, Missy Coker.

As you can see, the last several months have been busy ones. The Board and I are here working for you to build a better, stronger GFOASC. In order to accomplish this goal, we need you. We need your participation, we need your ideas and your suggestions. We need you to help us increase the awareness of what GFOASC means to government finance.

Please feel free to contact me, any of the Board members or committee chairs with suggestions, comments or ideas. You may contact us through the GFOASC web site at www.state.sc.us/gfoa.

Sincerely,

*Karen L. Wicker, CGFO
President, GFOASC*



GFOASC Online!

Please be sure to check the GFOASC web site for valuable up-to-date information about the association. You will find the association's Constitution, By-Laws, History and Code of Ethics on the web site.

Membership information including a membership listing as well as the Membership Form is accessible. Learn more about GFOASC's Scholarship program and Certification program. CGFOs can now complete the

recertification Continuing Education Report in a fillable format!

A complete schedule of all Continuing Professional Education classes offered for 2002 and a registration form is included. Information and online registration for Spring and Fall Conferences will be posted as soon as details are finalized.

GFOASC's Calendar of Events is posted including luncheon meeting dates and

speakers. Also, you will find links to GFOA National and GASB as well as employment opportunities.

The 2002 Board and the committees they chair are also listed. So, please check out the GFOASC web site at www.state.sc.us/gfoa. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.



Nominations 2002

It's not too soon to think about the future of GFOASC. Would you like to become more involved in the organization? How about a seat on the Board? This year positions will open for President-Elect, Secretary, two

Directors, and the State Representative to National. Criteria for these offices may be accessed on the web site under the annual meeting link at www.state.sc.us/gfoa. If you are interested in any of these positions

for the 2003 GFOASC year, please contact:

Marcia Medway, Chair,
Nominating Committee
(803) 822-3204 Phone,
(803) 822-3382 Fax
medwaym@midlandstech.com

2002 Continuing Professional Education

Courses Offered

Space Still Available

The following classes are scheduled for the year. We have openings in each class. If you would like to attend you may access the registration form on our web site at www.state.sc.us/gfoa under the CPE link. You can also contact us for a form at (803) 951-7371 Phone or (803) 359-4892 Fax, or email Lynne Lee at lslee@sc.rr.com.

Each class offers 8 hours of CPE and included in the registration are three breaks and lunch. All classes are held at Seawells on Rosewood Drive in Columbia.

OMB A-133/Single Audit

Date: *March 22, 2002*

CPE Hours: 8

Instructor: Larry Finney, CPA
Greene, Finney & Horton, LLP

Cost: \$90 Member

\$110 Non-member

Benchmarking & Performance Measurements

Date: *April 5, 2002*

CPE Hours: 8

Instructor: Larry Finney, CPA
Greene, Finney & Horton, LLP

Cost: \$90 Member

\$110 Non-member

Governmental Accounting & Auditing Update

Date: *April 26, 2002*

CPE Hours: 8

Instructor: Larry Finney, CPA
Greene, Finney & Horton, LLP

Cost: \$90 Member

\$110 Non-member

GASB 34 Implementation

Date: *June 7, 2002*

CPE Hours: 8

Instructor: Larry Finney, CPA
Greene, Finney & Horton, LLP

Cost: \$90 Member

\$110 Non-member

GFOASC Academic Scholarships Offered

The Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina will again be offering two academic scholarships this year. The Willa S. Bellamy Scholarship is available to students enrolled in a four-year accounting, finance or business administration curriculum at a state-supported institution of higher learning. The amount of the scholarship will be \$2,000.

The Morris, Vaughn Patterson Scholarship is available to students enrolled in a two-year accounting, finance or business administration curriculum at a state-supported institution of higher learning. The amount of this scholarship is \$500. Applications were mailed in February to the appropriate institutions of higher learning.

You may also access the applications on our GFOASC web site at www.state.sc.us/gfoa. If you have any questions concerning the scholarships, please contact:

Ann Epting, Chair
Scholarship Committee
(803) 806-3226 Phone
(803) 806-4329 Fax
EptingPA@tag.scmd.state.sc.us

Presentation of CAFR and Distinguished Budget Awards

If you or your governmental entity received an award such as the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting or The Distinguished Budget Award from GFOA and would like to have a representative from GFOASC to present that award, please remember the following guidelines.

- A minimum of thirty days advance notice is required to be assured to have a representative present your award.

- Notices of less than thirty days will be handled on a case by case basis and is subject to the availability of representatives.

To have your award presented please contact either of the following:

Dr. Ronald L. Rhames, GFOASC
State Rep.
Vice President for Business Affairs
Midlands Technical College
P.O. Box 2408
Columbia, SC 29202

(803) 822-3261 Phone
(803) 822-3382 Fax
rhamesr@midlandstech.com Email
or
Lynne Lee, GFOASC Administration
(803)951-7371 Phone
(803)951-4892 Fax
lslee@sc.rr.com Email

For more information on the CAFR and the Budget Award please visit our Web site at www.state.sc.us/gfoa and click on the GFOA National Link.

Certificate of Achievement

Anderson County was awarded GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 5th consecutive year. This award was presented to the Anderson County Council at the Council's meeting on February 5, 2002. Congratulations!



GFOA National Conference

The GFOA National Conference will be held in Denver, Colorado from June 16-19, 2002. For conference information and online conference registration, see the GFOASC web site for link to National or go to www.gfoa.org.

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***GFOASC Conference
Dates to Remember***

*May 2, 2002 ~ Spring Conference
September 22-25, 2002 ~
Fall Conference*

Please let us know if you are receiving newsletters
for individuals who are no longer in your agency
so that we may update our records.

CPE Dates to Remember

*March 22, 2002 ~ OMB A-133
April 5, 2002 ~ Benchmarking & Performance Measures
April 26, 2002 ~ Governmental Accounting & Auditing Update
June 7, 2002 ~ GASB 34 Implementation*

The GFOASC Bulletin Board

*Check us out on the Web
www.state.sc.us/gfoa/*

Newsletter Deadlines

If you have career announcements,
job opportunities, or an article you
would like printed in the GFOASC
Newsletter, please contact:

Lynne Lee,
GFOASC Administration
P.O. Box 280334, Columbia, SC 29228
(803)951-7371 Voice
(803)359-4892 Fax
lslee@sc.rr.com email

The deadlines for upcoming issues
this year will be as follows:

May 15, 2002
August 15, 2002
November 15, 2002



*This information can also be posted on
our Web site if requested.*

March 2002 Luncheon~ Mark Your Calendar!

The luncheon meeting for **March** will be held on **Wednesday, March 13, 2002**. We will be returning to the **Hilltop Restaurant**. Ben Rast with Morgan Stanley Dean Witter will be our speaker. Lunch begins at 12:00 PM and the program will start promptly at 12:30 PM. We hope to see you there.

Karen L. Wicker, CGFO ~ 2002 GFOASC President

Other Luncheon Dates for 2002

*July 24, 2002
November 20, 2002*

Membership Renewals

Membership Renewals were mailed out in December. Please let us
know if you did not receive yours.